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GAZETTE BUILDING, 310 & 312 PRINCE STREET. [Entered at the Postoffice of Alexandria, Vir-ginia, as second-class matter.]

HICKS FOR AUGUST.

The whole month of August will feel nore or less the influence of the equinox of the planet Mars. If at the entrance of the Mars period it is dry and warm, it is safe to say that the same kind of it is safe to say that the same kind of weather will largely predominate until this period is past. If we come well into the Mars period with tencency to wet and stormy weather, look for a predominence of such weather for several weeks. The regular storm periods will not be obliterated, but disturbances at these regular times will be modified or aggravated in the direction of existing conditions when the Mars period was entered. Hence, if the present case is not an exception to the rule, we may not an exception to the rule, we may expect, in the main, the kind of weather existing the last week in July, through-

them quite heavy—may attend these storms but the general supply of rains will be short. More pleasant conditions

will follow these disturbances.

A reactionary storm period exists on the 6th, 7th and 8th. Look for increased warmth, black clouds, thunder and storminess. Change to cooler will follow for several days.

One of the "heated terms" of the

month will appear about the 11th to the 16th. At the beginning of this period the warm wave will start in western sections. As the low barometer moves east-ward, threatening clouds with severe lo-cal storms will visit many sections. While the heat waves and storms are still passing central and eastern parts of the country, change to cooler will be advanc-ing from west to north, so that by the 15th and 16th most parts of the country will have felt the change to cooler weath-

There will be a perceptible reaction to rising temperature and return to cloudi-ness and storms on and touching the 17th and 18th, followed by another return to cooler and more pleasant weather about the 19th to the 21st.

central on the 29th, should take on the nature of violent atmospheric displace-ments—a result rather to be expected the regular storm period extending from the 21st to the 22nd will develop some violent and dangerous West Inda storms and storms along the coast. General storm conditions will develop over the country, and inland storms of more or less intensity may reasonably be expected about the 24th to the 27th.

month.

of cardinals to regulate the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the dogmatic definition of the immaculate conception of the Blessed Virgin. The anniversary occurs on December 8, 1904. It will be made one of especial joy and solemnity throughout Catholicism. The late pope was greatly interested in the proper celebration of this anniverary, as he was greatly devoted to the

veneration of the Blessed Virgin.

While the church had, it appears, long admitted the truths of the doctrine of the immaculate conception, and most of the bishops of the church as early as the Council of Trent had upheld the doctrine, still no formal promulgation had been made. The Council of Trent contented itself with declaration that in defining the truth that the whole human race fell under orginal sin, it did not intend to include in the decree "the blessed and immaculate Virgin." The council, however, declared that the constitutions of Sixtus IV. should be observed. Pius V., in 1570, forbade all discussions of the doctrine in sermons, permitting, however, its discussion in informal assemblies. Paul V., in 1617, prohibited attacks on the doctrine in

anyone to maintain in private discussion that the Virgin was conceived in original sin. He also forbade anyone to accuse another who did not accept the doctrine of the immaculate conception of heresy or mortal sin. Matters stood in this way until February 1, 1840, many churchmen accepting the idea of the Virgin's immaculate conception and many declining to accept it. Pius IX. wrote from Gaeta in February, 1849, to wrote from tacta in February, 1843, to the bishops of the Catholic world, ask-ing for their opinions on the subject, and to ascertain the feeling among their priests and people concerning the expediency of defining the doctrine that the Blessed Virgin was immaculate when in her conception. The Italian, Spanish and Portuguese bishops were unanimous in their wish for the definition. But there were bishops of great eminence in France, Switzerland and Germany who thought otherwise. Near-

out August and into September.

Whatever degree of intensity may be given to them, regular storm disturbances will be due from the 1st to the 4th of August. The probabilities are that the natural warmth to be expected at this season will grow into a crisis of summer heat about the 1st, 2nd and 3rd, to be followed progressively from the West by severe blustering. Local rains—some of

If the perturbations of the Mars period

The 29th and 30th will bring a reac tion to storm conditions, and more or less storminess and rain will result in many localities. Change to cooler gen-erally will mark the closing hours of the

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

public assemblies of any kind, while Gregory XV., in 1622, strictly forbade ALL KINDS OF LIQUORS,

Have on hand Gibson's XX, XXXX, XXXX, and Pure Cld Rye, Old Cabinet and Monogram Whiskies; also Baker's and Thompson's Pure Rye Whiskies, to which they invite the attention of the trade.

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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

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